

9-30-1906

Letter from Ruby Willis, Wellesley, Massachusetts,
to Dr. and Mrs. William H. Willis, Reading,
Massachusetts, 1906 September 30

Ruby Willis

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Sunday night.

[Sept 30, 1906]

Dear people at home, —

I'm back here safely
and very happily settled at
Ed Freeman Cottage. Wasn't
I lucky to get my first choice
of houses? There are about
fifty girls here, all '08 and '09,
not a senior in the house.
Edith came out on the train I
did and we went together to
College Hall, registered, and

went to see Miss Tufts. She
was perfectly dear, and when
she saw me, ^{she} said she thought
I had a room where I wanted
to be. Perhaps I wasn't pleased
and thankful! She gave me
a note to Miss Dennison (the
head of Freeman) and so I
was fixed once for all. You can't
imagine how fortunate I am,
why there are thirty or more
Sophomores in the village, in
any old place they can get.

Think of that! Of course they haven't decent rooms, for all the good rooms are let early to Freshmen. The village cannot hold everybody, so some people have had to go to Wellesley Hills to stay. Poor Edith hasn't a room yet, but Miss Tufts let her come over here to stay a few days until Helen Eustis gets back from Europe. There are several late girls and so Miss Tufts has given their rooms temporarily to Sophomores. She hopes to be able to give Edith a room to-morrow; I wish she could be here very much. There will be a lot of rooms to-morrow, because flunk notes will be out, and a good many will have to go home. I am sorry to say. A good many of these poor girls are in our class, - in fact I know two who already know that

they must leave. It must be perfectly awful to have to pack up and go home. I am so sorry for them, but the college is being very strict about work.

I have been to Miss Pendleton to see 'if I may change from Greek to Latin and if I don't hear anything by tomorrow, I can do as I like,

Last night was Christian
Association reception, and I
took Katherine Scott of
Somerville, Marion Eaton's
friend. I had a dandy time;
it's perfectly fine to be more
than a Freshman. I got 94
people to write on Katherine's
card, among them Florence
Besse and Pauline Sage, the
graduate sec. of C. A., and
so she went home perfectly
happy. I took her, with two

other Freshmen to musical vespers
to-night. Didn't it pour last night?
It rained until about 9:30, but
since then it has been fairly pleasant.
To-night we had a glorious sunset,
so I guess it will be pleasant to-
morrow for paper and needle.

Well, I think I am going to be
very happy here. There are about
20 Sophs, most of them Hoanett girls
and so I know almost all of them
very well. Then the Juniors too, I
know nearly all of them pretty
well. The five Faculty are very
nice and so is Miss Dennison
though she is fairly old. I have
heard that she's all right, especially
if she likes you, so I told her,
right off about Grace Dennison
and Margaret Starr, and she
said she remembered them very well
and she was very fond of them.

Wasn't I foxy? We have
dandy things to eat here -
it is considered the best on the
campus, and is even better than
Noanett, though more formal.
The first dinner took us
an hour and a quarter, but
it's not so bad now. For
fun I'll tell you what we've had
to-day - Breakfast; ^{8-8:45} - Grape
fruit, oatmeal or shredded
wheat, fish-balls and scrambled
eggs, very nice bread & butter,

and coffee. Dinner - ~~Bo~~
Cream of tomato soup with toasted
crackers, fried chicken (delicious)
white & sweet potatoes,
cranberry sauce, celery,
tomato salad, with crackers
and Edam cheese, caramel
ice-cream with the thinnest
and most delightful sugar
cookies (home-made). Then
after dinner coffee was served
in the parlors. Supper - cold
tongue, bread, toasted crackers
Edam cheese, chocolate, cake

and preserved crab-apples. What do you think of that for "eats"? Not so bad, is it?

My little room is rather bare now, for my steamer trunk hasn't come yet. It is not in the station, and has probably been delivered to the wrong house. I guess I shall get it to-morrow. Then, too, my goods from Hoanett haven't been sent up yet. When I get all those and a desk and screen, I think I shall be very cozy.

It is very beautiful here now, and it is very exciting to meet all the girls again. Soon we shall get down to work now, but it is very jolly and pleasant here.

The 10 o'clock bell has rung, so I guess I'll go to bed. I'll write again the middle of the week, and all of you be sure to write to me. Good-night, dear ones, and hug Needle and kitty for me.

Yours lovingly
Ruby.